

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/617,322

Examiner

Tianjie Chen

Applicant(s)

DINAN ET AL.

Art Unit

2627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 03/27/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 19-26 and 28-30.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

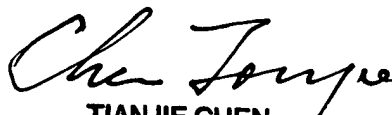
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


TIANJIE CHEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Robert O. Guillot on 06/08/2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

- In claim 19, line 5; "includes overhang portions" have been changed to --includes an overhang portion--, respectively.
- In claim 19, line 5; "said overhang portions" have been changed to --said overhang portion--, respectively.
- In claim 19, lines 7, 8, and 10; "portions" has been changed to --portion--, respectively.
- In claim 19, line 5; "project" has been changed to --projects--.
- In claim 19, line 7; "include" has been changed to --includes--.
- In claim 25, line 9; "includes overhang portions" have been changed to --includes an overhang portion--, respectively.
- In claim 25, line 9; "said overhang portions" have been changed to --said overhang portion--, respectively.
- In claim 25, lines 11, 12, and 14; "portions" has been changed to --portion--, respectively.
- In claim 25, line 9; "project" has been changed to --projects--.
- In claim 25, line 11; "include" has been changed to --includes--.
- In claim 28, line 1; "27" has been changed to --25--.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

- With regard to independent claims 19 and 25, as the closest reference on record Terunuma et al (US 5,936,812) discloses a thin film device in Fig. 2 including: at least one thin film layer, at least one component above; the component including central portion that projects generally upwardly from the thin film layer; the component being formed with an over head that includes overhang portion wherein the overhang portions projects generally laterally outward from the central portion and over the thin film layer; and wherein the overhang portion includes an outer edge thereof; a layer being disposed beneath the overhang portions; the layer being disposed within a volume defined by the thin film layer, the central portion of the component, the overhang portion; **but fails to show** that the layer is photoresist and a surface that is generally perpendicular to the thin film layer and which surface intersects the outer edge of the overhang portion.
- Applicant asserts: "the device is baked, such that hard baked resist remains beneath the overhang. Ultimately, the device is encapsulated and no voids or redeposition problems exist beneath the overhang due to the presence of the hard baked resist" (Specification, p. 3).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tianjie Chen whose telephone number is 571-272-7570. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30, Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-7579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


TIANJIE CHEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER